

EGREMONT HOUSING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF ZOOM MEETING

NOVEMBER 23, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p. m. by chairman Fred Gordon. Attending were committee members Richard Allen, Judi Goodman, Fred Gordon, Mark Holmes, Bruce Kafenbaum (who joined later in the meeting) and Doug Mishkin. Also attending for all or part of the meeting were Lucinda Vermeulen (SB), Chris Brown (BRPC) and Egremonters James DiPisa, Liz Wilson, Marcia Arland, Stephanie James, Lisa Balestro and Kevin Balestro. Peg McDonough attended for part of the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting of October 26 were approved 5-0 after corrections.

Fred Gordon asked for attendees to make any initial comments on the SK Design report ("SKR"). No one did.

Fred Gordon reported on comments received by recipients of the SKR. Allison Marchese of CDCSB was reviewing. June Wolfe of Construct thought at least 10% of the units should have 3 bedrooms and a few units should have 1 bedroom; and that we needed a "realistic" feasibility study. Carolyn Valli of Habitat was reviewing. Mark Holmes reported that Jared Kelly of the PB invited HC members to come to the December 1 PB meeting.

Attending Egremonters expressed concerns about housing at the town hall site, especially regarding density.

A lively discussion took place about the number of units at the town site. Several committee members expressed their preference for ownership rather than rental, and their belief that the town would not accept 20 units at the site. Judi Goodman suggested that the possibility of 4- or 6-unit buildings should not be foreclosed.

It was suggested that SK Design be tasked with doing a plan with 8 to 12 units. Bruce Kafenbaum queried whether any further work by SK Design was necessary, and after discussion there was a consensus that we should simply approach possible contractors (including the ones who received the SKR) and ask what they would propose at the site.

Chris Brown reported on the status of the housing needs study and gave some preliminary observations. The report should be available soon.

Fred Gordon urged committee members to attend the December 1 PB meeting, and several members indicated they would try to attend.

Richard Allen described the mission of the Egremont Housing Trust, noting that it could work in tandem with other housing efforts. He said he was ready to contribute to the Housing Trust a

site on Oxbow Road that could support 2 or 3 housing units, and hoped such a project would be pursued.

The committee set Tuesday, December 21 at 5:00 as the date and time for the next meeting of the committee.

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.